



*Library*

BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

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A N N U A L   R E P O R T

For the Year 1952

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE  
AUTHORITY

(a)

Part time M.O.H.

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(b)

Sanitary Inspector  
and Meat and Food Inspector

Charles Jeffries

M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

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REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
to the Borough of Tiverton.  
For the year ended 31st December, 1952.

II, St. Peter Street,  
Tiverton,  
May, 1953.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,680 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population. 11,110.

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1952 was 3,396.

Rateable Value is £73,087.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £302 - 4 - 1

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births { Legitimate	172	80	92	} Birth Rate: 16.1 per 1000
{ Illegitimate	7	4	3	
Still Births	2	1	1	} Rate per 1000 Births 32.4 (Total Live and Still Births)

Illegitimate Still Births, 1

Corrected Birth Rate. 17.3

Deaths .....	115	61	54	} Death Rate: 10.3 per 1000
Corrected Death Rate ...	...	...	...	

8.9 per 1000

This is the lowest death rate within my records.

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth, 0; Puerperal Sepsis, 0; other causes, 0.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age. All infants per 1000 live births, 16.7

Illegitimate infants under 1 year, Nil.

Deaths from Measles ... Nil.

" " Whooping Cough ... Nil.

" " Diarrhoea ... Nil.



The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.3, and the Birth Rate 15.3. The Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales was 27.6 per 1000 live Births.

Deaths from Cancer, 25

Breast - Males 0; Females 2  
Stomach- Males 2; Females 2  
Lung - Males 5; Females 1  
Other } - Males 5; Females 8  
Sites)

This is 8 more than the previous year.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (1) Nursing in the Home. No change.
- (2) Domiciliary Midwifery is carried out by the two district nurses.
- (3) Laboratory Facilities. There are two in the Area - The County Laboratory and that connected with the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
- (4) Hospitals. The old Joint Board Isolation Hospital has now been taken over by the Regional Hospital Board for the reception of recovery cases. Belmont Hospital the converted workhouse is now the chronic sick hospital for both Borough and Rural District. Infectious cases are sent to Whipton Isolation Hospital where accommodation is very adequate.

Tiverton and District Hospital deals with Surgical, Medical and Maternity cases. There are 50 beds, 11 of which are devoted to Maternity cases. Bookings are carried out by the County Medical Officer.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is now held at the above Hospital twice monthly.

- (5) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
- (6) Ambulance Facilities. No change.
- (7) Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Out-patient departments (under control of the Local Authority) - School Minor Ailments, Friday morning, 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesdays, S.M.O. in attendance, 9 to 12 noon.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly on Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinic at the Tiverton and District Hospital on Tuesdays, 3 p.m.

The attendances for 1952 were as follows:-

Total infants attending for first time ... ..	101
" children, 1 to 5 years, attending for first time.	19
Number on Register at end of year - Mothers ... ..	336
" " " " " " " - Infants ... ..	101
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years. ... ..	235
Number of attendances during 1952 - Mothers ... ..	1760
" " " " " " " - Infants ... ..	1319
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years ... ..	692





The Mothers and Children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor, and in their houses by the Health Visitor. Simple treatment has been given where considered sufficient, in other cases the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 49 Tuesdays during the year - 24 sessions by the Surgeon and 34 by the after-care Sister.

Number on Register, 1/1/52	...	...	...	...	329
" " " 31/12/52	...	...	...	...	317
Sessions held	...	...	...	...	65
New Cases	...	...	...	...	319
Discharges	...	...	...	...	331
Admitted to Hospital...	...	...	...	...	28
Average weekly attendance	...	...	...	...	26.5
Number of Attendances..	...	...	...	...	<u>1333</u>
Admissions:-					
Adults	...	...	...	...	278
School Age..	...	...	...	...	25
Infants	...	...	...	...	<u>16</u>
					319

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loe's College for the Disabled, in connection with the Clinic, the aim being the complete rehabilitation of the patients.

#### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scabies. Only an occasional case required.

Diphtheria Immunization. Vaccination procedure administered by County Council and a Clinic is held for this purpose on three Wednesdays each month. The majority of cases are dealt with by local doctors at their surgeries. The percentage of children immunised is highly satisfactory.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1952.

#### NEW CASES

#### DEATHS

Age Period.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
4	-	-	I	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	I	-	I	-	-	-	-
23	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	-	I	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	I	-	I	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	I	-	-	-	-	-	-
62	-	-	-	-	I	-	-	-
72	-	I	-	-	-	I	-	-
77	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	3	4	2	I	I	I	-	-





Notifiable Diseases.

Age Incidence.

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2	1	1	-	1	-
3 to 4	1	-	-	-	-
5 to 9	4	-	-	-	-
10 to 14	1	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	-	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	1	-	1	-

Age Period	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic/Non	Typhoid	Diphtheria
Under 1 year	-	5	-	-	-
1 to 2	1	13	-	-	-
3 to 4	2	10	-	-	-
5 to 9	3	17	-	-	-
10 to 14	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	-	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	45	-	-	-

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925).  
No action taken.

Public Health Act, 1925. No action taken.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON,

Medical Officer of Health.



REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st January to 31st December, 1952.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
Town Hall, Tiverton.  
March 1953.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Tiverton Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I am happy to present to your notice my seventh Annual  
Report dealing with my duties for the Year 1952.

The letting of Council Houses has continued to be a thorny  
problem and a total of 473 families have been housed between 1946  
and the end of 1952 through selection by the Council's Points Scheme.

I cite below figures which may prove interesting to members  
of the Council and which serve to illustrate the increasing tempo  
of house building in Tiverton.

Year	Successful Applicants		Total No. Applicants Housed
	Householders	Sharing Accommodation	
1946	13	42	55
1947	10	8	18
1948	25	26	51
1949	40	19	59
1950	48	37	85
1951	55	37	92
1952	67	46	113
Totals	258	215	473

Number of applicants on Council's Waiting List as disclosed by  
Questionnaires:-

Date	Householders	Sharing Accommodation	Total
October 1948	205	182	387
October 1950	158	112	270
June 1951	155	146	301
October 1952	188	99	287





Examining this table, it will be observed that during the past four years, although 349 applicants were granted tenancies, the total number of applicants on the Waiting List was reduced by only 100.

Further, by the end of 1952, the number on the waiting list had grown to 303.

It would therefore appear that building at the present rate of approximately 150 houses per annum, will require 7 years to wipe out the waiting list.

#### Slum Clearance.

No appeal was lodged against the Clearance Order in respect of Pinkstones Court and the premises have been acquired by the Borough Council and the families rehoused. Unfortunately, it has been decided not to demolish the houses on the site for the time being.

#### Meat & Food Inspection.

Both ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection of all animals received for slaughter at the Council's Abattoir was carried out, a total of 4767 animals.

Approximately 9½ tons of meat and offal was condemned as unfit for human consumption; and over 1 ton of tinned and other foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered at local food shops.

#### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

##### Water Supply.

- (1) The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply. Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Exe) is both filtered and chlorinated. Water from the Warnicombe supply is only chlorinated.
- (3) The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) No contamination during year.
- (5) The number of dwelling houses in the Borough and population supplied from public mains are 3234 houses, 11,210 population. The water is piped in direct to approximately 2,694 houses, whilst approximately 540 houses are supplied by means of stand pipes. These latter houses being situated principally in Courts.

#### RESULTS OF SAMPLING

<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>No. of Samples.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Allers Public Main.	11	11	-
Warnicombe Public Main.	16	12	4
Farms and other premises.	23	4	19





Inspection and Supervision of Meat and Foods

268 Visits of Inspection were made to the Council's Abattoir for the purpose of Meat Inspection. Ante-mortem is a regular feature of the meat inspection service.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year and gives details of meat and offal condemned as diseased or unsound:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed ... ..	376	110	1135	3028	118
Number Inspected. ... ..	376	110	1135	3028	118
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.-					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	5	30	67	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	338	64	2	332	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	90.0	62.7	2.8	13.2	12.7
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	4	1	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	3	36	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis...	1.33	36.36	0.1	-	1.7
Note:- Included in the above totals are 175 dressed sheep and 4 dressed pigs, received at the Slaughter House.					

BEEF

<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
2	Emaciation and Diseased.	719
3	General Dropsy.	856
1	Septicaemia.	475
1	Inflammation.	535
<u>7</u>		<u>2585 lbs.</u>
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
1	Inflammation.	180
1	Abscess.	90
2	Injuries.	54
<u>4</u>		<u>324 lbs.</u>
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	5082 lbs.



<u>BEEF. (Tuberculosis).</u>		
<u>No. of Carcases</u>		<u>Weight.</u>
6	T.B.	3255 lbs.
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
3	T.B.	362 lbs.
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	1514 lbs.
Total Weight of BEEF Condemned. 2 tons. 18 cwt. 1 qrs. 2 lbs.		
" " "	OFFAL "	2 " 18 " 3 " 16 "

CALVES

<u>No. of Carcases.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
4	Immature.	109
4	General Dropsy.	141
12	Umbilical Pyaemia.	516
6	Inflammation.	243
1	Acute Pleurisy & Peritonitis.	27
2	Jaundice.	107
<u>29</u>		<u>1143</u> lbs.
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	258 lbs.

<u>CALVES (Tuberculosis).</u>		
<u>No. of Carcases.</u>		
1	Congenital T.B.	49 lbs.
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	9 lbs.
Total Weight of VEAL Condemned. 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.		
" " "	OFFAL "	2 " 1 " 15 "



<u>PIGS</u>			
<u>No. of Carcases.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>	
2	Septicaemia.	170	
2	Inflammation.	115	
1	Nephritis.	55	
1	Pleurisy.	125	
1	Extensive Bruising.	50	
<u>7</u>		<u>515</u> lbs.	
<u>Parts of Carcases.</u>			
5	Injuries.	88 lbs.	
<u>Offal</u>	Various.	50 lbs.	
<u>PIGS (Tuberculosis)</u>			
<u>No. of Carcases.</u>			
1	T.B.	59 lbs.	
<u>Parts of Carcases.</u>			
1	T.B.	32 lbs.	
<u>Offal.</u>	T.B.	18 lbs.	
Total Weight of PORK Condemned. 6 cwts. 0 qrs. 22 lbs.			
" " " OFFAL " 2 " 12 "			





SHEEP

<u>No. of Carcases.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
II	Septicaemia.	560
I6	Inflammation.	855
6	Gangrenous Pneumonia.	373
3	Septic Mastitis.	I82
I	Septic Metritis.	4I
I	Pyæmia.	49
I3	Traumatic Injuries.	840
I	Pregnancy Toxaemia.	75
2	Emaciation & Diseased.	59
7	General Dropsy.	264
I	Multiple Tumours.	54
3	Deep & Extensive Bruising.	2I0
I	Jaundice & Ureamia.	66
I	Pleurisy & Pneumonia.	36
I	Ill Bled.	84
<u>68</u>		<u>3748 lbs.</u>
<u>Parts of Carcases.</u>		
8	Abscess.	III
4	Inflammation.	63
3	Mastitis.	II
3	Arthritis.	2
I	Pneumonia & Pleurisy.	35
6	Traumatic Injuries.	2I6
5	Dropsy.	52
<u>IO</u>	<u>Injuries.</u>	<u>90</u>
<u>40</u>		<u>580 lbs.</u>
<u>Offal</u>	<u>Various.</u>	<u>I573 lbs.</u>
Total Weight of MUTTON Condemned. I ton. I8 cwts. 2 qrs. I6 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " I4 " 0 " 5 "		

UNSOOUND FOOD.

I20 Visits made to shops for the purpose of inspection and condemnation of Unsound Food and premises inspected for contravention of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

The following is a list of food condemned:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>
	lbs.		lbs.
Jam & Marmalade.....	26½	Br/fd.	669¼
Fruit.....	465¼	Meat.....	370¼
Fruit Juice.....	3¾	Ham.....	279¼
Puddings.....	I½	Soup.....	85¾
Cake.....	20	Vegetables.....	I78¾
Biscuits.....	6½	Fish.....	I67¾
Milk.....	II3¼	Pickles.....	IO
Butter.....	I	Coffee.....	2½
Bacon.....	I8½	Dog Food.....	I4
Cheese.....	I2¾		
	<u>669¼</u>		<u>2377¼</u>

Total Weight of Food Condemned. I ton. I cwts. 0 qrs. 25 lbs.



ICE CREAM

During the year 5 premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, making a total of 38 registered premises. 5 inspections were made to enforce the provisions of the Food & Drugs Act 1938. Time did not permit of the purchase of any samples of ice cream for analysis.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Factories Act	...	...	...	...	21
Food Shops re Condemned Food and					
Food & Drugs Act.	...	...	...	...	120
Shops Act...	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	268
Dairies	...	...	...	...	3
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	41
Council's Points Scheme:-					
Inspections.	...	...	...	...	183
Re-visits...	...	...	...	...	125
Water samples taken:-					
Public Mains	...	...	...	...	27
Other Premises and Farms	...	...	...	...	23
Ice Cream...	...	...	...	...	5
Caravans	...	...	...	...	17
Petroleum...	...	...	...	...	17
Disinfection, Disinfestation...	...	...	...	...	15
Inspections re Complaints.	...	...	...	...	138
Re-Visits...	...	...	...	...	183
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage Inspections & Tests...	...	...	...	...	361
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	17
					<u>1567</u>

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

50 Licenses were re-issued for the storage of 57,440 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 5,780 gallons of Petroleum and other Oils, and 42,182 gallons of Petroleum Mixtures.

Seventeen premises were inspected and advice given on installation of further storage tanks and pumps.

Three licenses issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1875.

22 applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives.

22 Certificates of Registration were granted.





FACTORIES IN DETAIL.			INSPECTION		
Premises (1)	(2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Number of	
				Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6) (7)
(i) Factories in which Sec. I, 2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.		25	12	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.		85	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.		10	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals		120	33	Nil	Nil

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars (1)	(2)	Number of Cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred - By H.M. Inspector (6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness		4	4	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding		-	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.		-	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation		-	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.		1	1	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences		2	2	-	-	-	-
(a) insufficient							
(b) Unsuitable or defective		1	1	-	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes		1	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		2	2	-	-	-	-
Total		11	11	-	-	-	-

OUTWORK

Number of Out-workers required by Sect. 110.

Wearing Apparel (Making, etc. Cleaning and washing) .....15  
Lace, lace curtains and nets.....13





CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

PART A. - CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936)

	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in the period.		Number of persons displaced
	Unfit houses	Other houses	
(1) Land coloured "pink" ...	-----	-----	-----
(2) Land coloured "grey" ...	-----	-----	-----
Note:- Eleven (11) houses included in Clearance Area and 8 persons displaced rehoused but houses left standing.			

PART B. - HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN  
CLEARANCE AREAS

	Number of Houses	Persons displaced
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.		
(1) Housing Act, 1936		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section II ... ..	I	-
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II, and still in force.. ...	I	6
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12) ...	-	-
(2) Housing Act, 1949		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1) ...	-	-
(b) Demolition orders determined and closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2) ... ..	-	-

	Number of houses
REPAIRS	
INFORMAL ACTION	
(3) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts ... ..	59
(4) <u>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS</u>	
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) by owners . ... ..	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil
(5) <u>HOUSING ACT, 1936</u>	
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9,10 and 16)	
(a) by owners ... ..	Nil
(b) by local authority in default of owners ... ..	Nil

